

District Highlights

May 20, 2010 Actions by the Governing Board

- The Board received and filed proposed amendments to **Rule 4570 (Confined Animal Facilities)** and set June 17 for a public hearing to consider adoption. These amendments would further reduce VOC emissions at Valley Confined Animal Facilities by requiring that new emission mitigation measures be implemented. The proposal is the result of several years of groundbreaking research into the causes and nature of VOC emissions at Valley dairies.
- The Board approved the **Agricultural Burning Report and Proposed Findings and Recommendations**. The report satisfies requirements in California Health & Safety Code Sections 41855.5 and 41855.6 by establishing new burn prohibitions for some crop types, while postponing burn prohibitions for other crop types where economically feasible alternatives are not yet available.

For those crop types where limited open burning is still allowed, the amount and location of open burning will continue to be strictly controlled by the District's comprehensive Smoke Management System and will not be allowed on days when fireplace use is prohibited, or when such burns would adversely affect air quality. The California Air Resources Board is expected to concur with the Board's determinations at its monthly meeting next week.
- The Board approved a contract to build a real-time **air quality monitoring station** to measure Particulate Matter (PM) 2.5 in Manteca (San Joaquin County). The station will be built by SCS Tracer Environmental and is expected to be completed by Sept. 1. The installation is part of an ongoing expansion of the District's air monitoring network that is underway.
- The Board previewed the District's conference, **Particle Pollution in the San Joaquin Valley: Translating Science into Policy** set for June 9-10 in Fresno. About 150 attendees are expected to hear presentations and discussions by the nation's top atmospheric scientists and agency representatives on the sources, health impacts and policy implications of this criteria pollutant. The public is encouraged to attend. Registrations are due by June 1. For information or to register, see the District's website: www.valleyair.org.
- Two **voluntary emission reduction agreements** (VERA) were approved to mitigate the air-quality impacts of two proposed projects in the San Joaquin Valley air basin. To date the District has received \$11,778,932 in revenue from 15 VERAs. These projects have achieved emission reduction totals of 125 tons of NO_x, 34 tons of PM 10 and 1,063 tons of VOC.

May District Activities

Outreach and Education

- **Bike to Work events.** The Air District partnered with cities around the Valley to support Bike to Work events in May. Events were executed in Fresno, Modesto and Bakersfield, as well as outlying communities, with significant public participation. District staff also turned out for the Bike to Work Corporate Challenge on May 19.
- **Employee Trip Reduction Rule Outreach.** Outreach and Communications is updating its Healthy Air Living Partner outreach materials and website content as part of a concerted, targeted strategy to enroll Valley organizations as partners. Materials also reflect the interrelation between Healthy Air Living Partners program and fulfilling eTRIP requirements. Public requests for this information has accelerated significantly in the past month.
- **May 28 deadline nears for video contest entries!** Time is running out to submit entries for the 2010 For Reel Video Contest. Enter a 30-second video that shows how you are Healthy Air Living. You'll have a chance to win an iPod Shuffle and teachers can win a resource grant. See www.healthyairliving.com or "Valley Air District" on Facebook for tips about Healthy Air Living and other details.

- District staff did 22 air quality presentations and attended 13 outreach events in April as part of Earth Day and stakeholder outreach related to the Healthy Air Living Partner program. Staff answered 105 public calls and 32 media calls. One news release was issued.

Grant and Incentive Programs

- The District received 100 incentive program applications in April. Of those, 39 were for the Wood Stove Change-Out Program. \$51,550 was paid out in Wood Stove Change-Out Program claims.
- \$9,224,013.29 in Heavy-Duty Engine Program and REMOVE II Program grant funds were placed under contract last month. \$188,950 was paid out in REMOVE II Program claims.
- \$5,652,674.87 paid out in Heavy-Duty Engine Program claims.
 - Ag Engines – 136 \$ 3,412,866.80
 - On-Road Prop 1B – 38 \$ 1,595,000.00
 - Off-Road – 19 \$ 397,101.64
 - School Bus Retrofit – 44 \$ 108,136.68
 - School Bus Replacement – 1 \$ 139,569.75

Heavy-Duty Emission Reductions (tons)

• NOx	676
• PM	489
• ROG	<u>24</u>
Total:	1,190

April Operations Overview

- **New Department.** As a part of the Air District’s ongoing efforts to improve efficiency and productivity, the Planning and Emission Reduction Incentive Programs (ERIP) departments have been merged into a new department named Strategies and Incentives. This move is expected to save money, reduce redundancies and make both departments more effective.
- **The District** received 110 environmental documents for review in May.
- **Strategies and Incentives** held two rule and plan workshops and received 18 smoking vehicle reports.
- **Compliance** completed 3,152 inspections, issued 210 NOVS and finalized 301 mutual settlement cases.
- **Permits** received 437 applications and issued 320 permits.

Upcoming Meetings

Governing Board

9 a.m. Thurs., June 17, 2010

Citizens Advisory Committee

10 a.m. Tues., June 1, 2010

Meetings are held in the Governing Board Room in the Fresno office and via video teleconference to the Modesto and Bakersfield offices. Meetings are webcast. Details: www.valleyair.org